

Abstract

Methods are provided for determining cartilage degeneration, regeneration, or aging in a joint tissue in a patient by measuring levels of osteogenic protein-1 (OP-1) protein and/or mRNA in synovial fluid or joint tissue. The methods according to the invention are useful for detecting, diagnosing, predicting, determining a predisposition for, or monitoring joint tissue degeneration, regeneration, or aging in a patient including inflammatory joint disease or age-related disorders.

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